# Framework of Accessibility

MEA Mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy

**SMARTER BALANCED**

**http://me.portal.airast.org/**

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# Goal

- Maine Portal
- Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE)
- Access Features and Accommodations
- Provide Students Practice for Features and Accommodations

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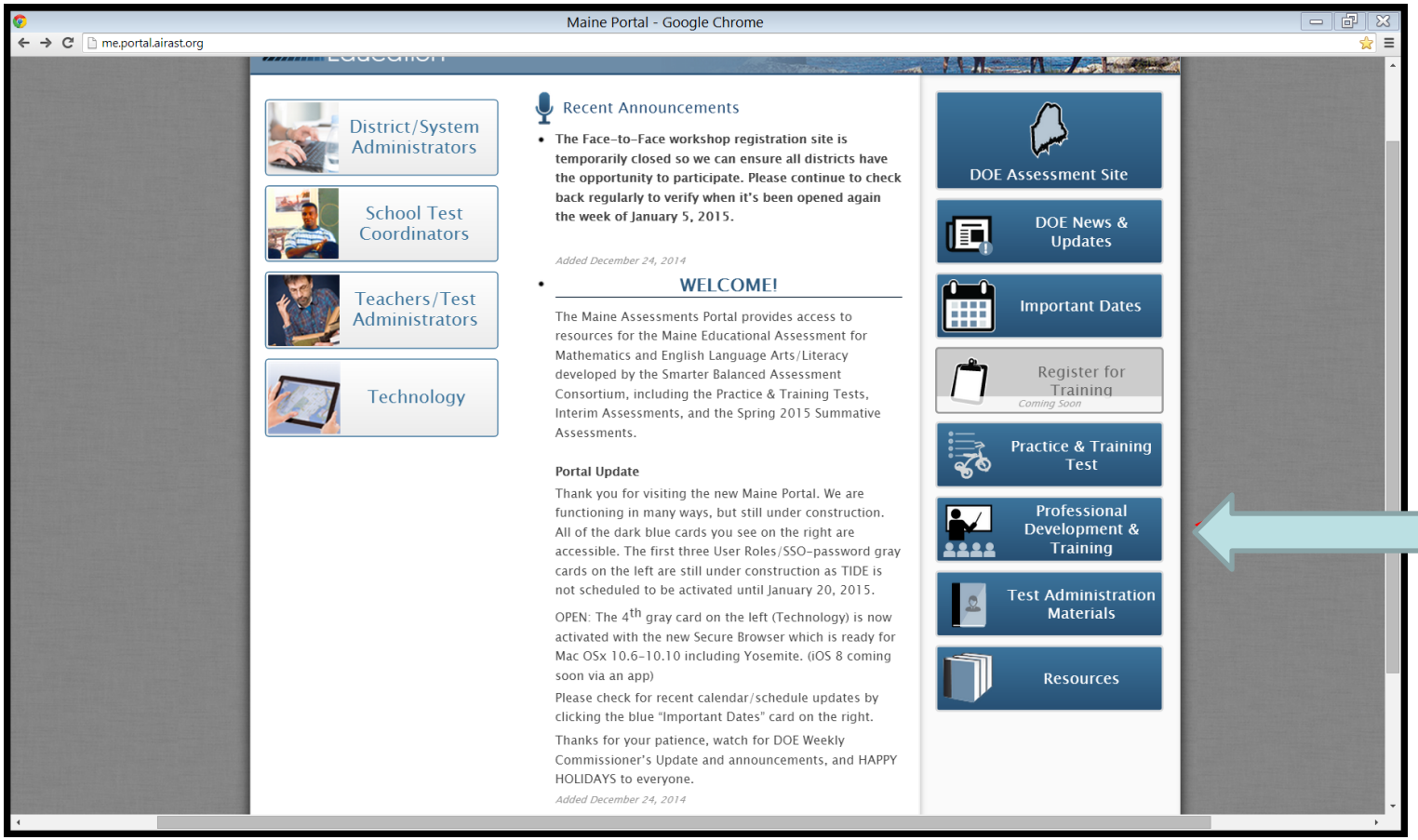
# Maine Portal

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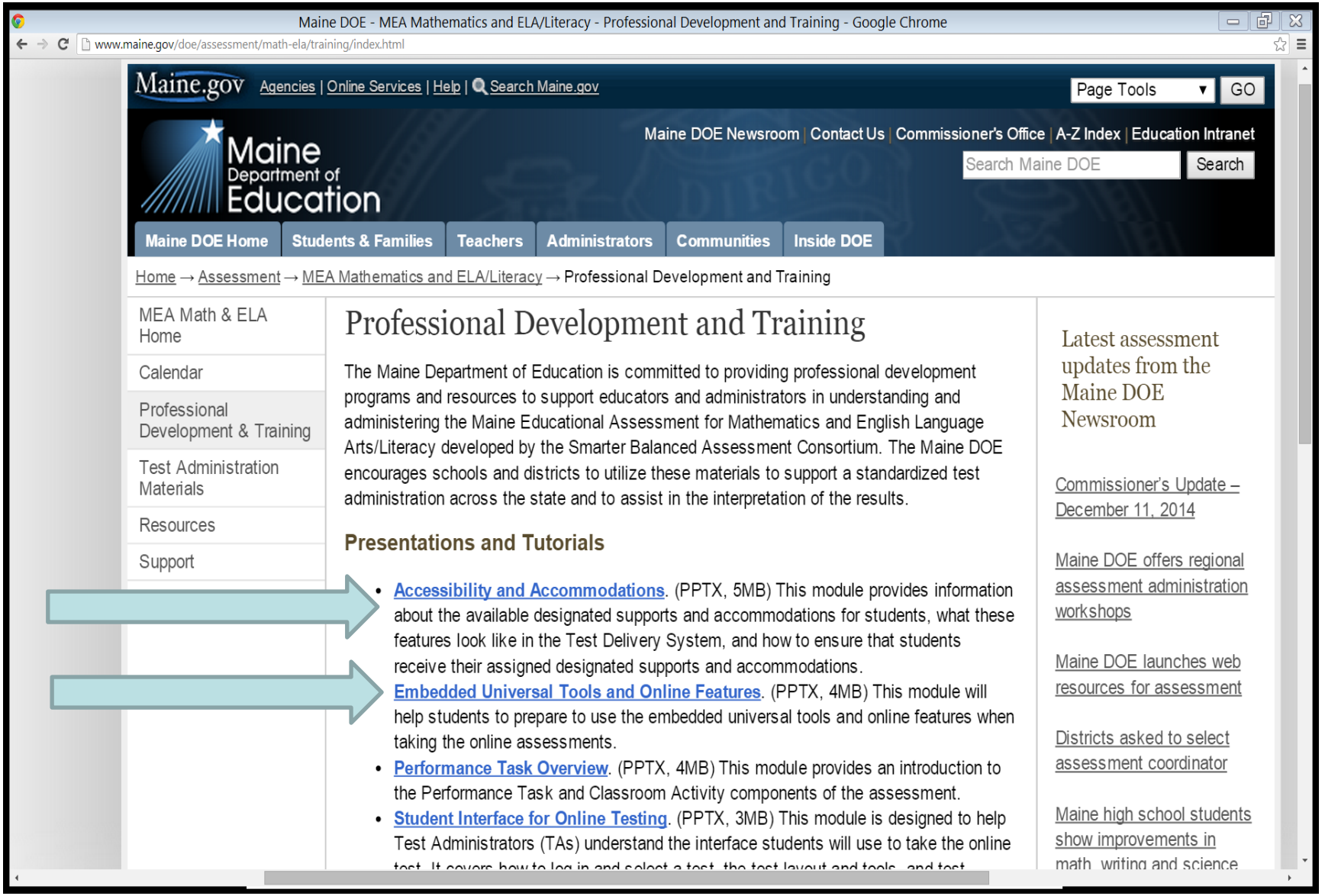


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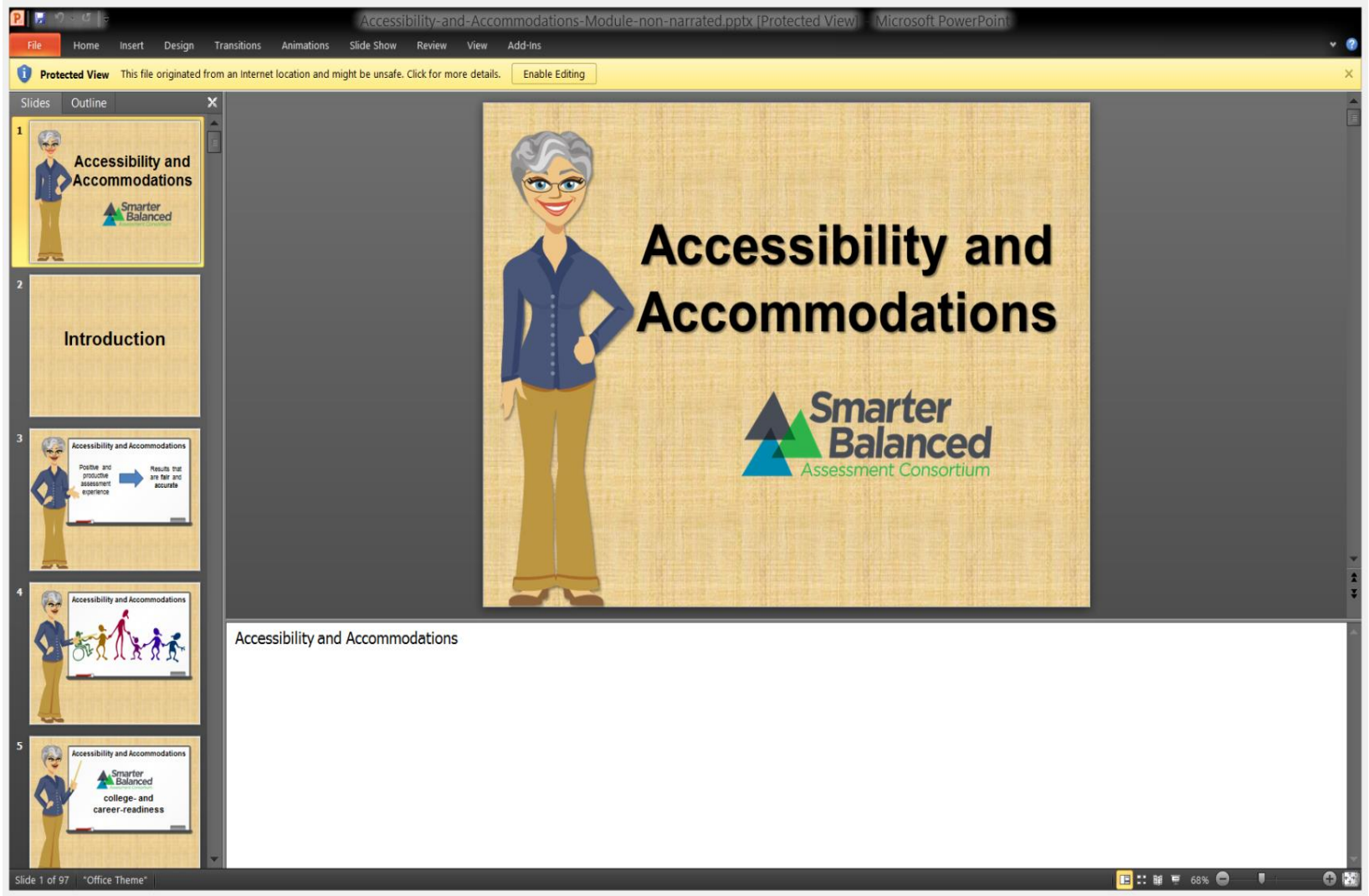
# Accessibility and Accommodations

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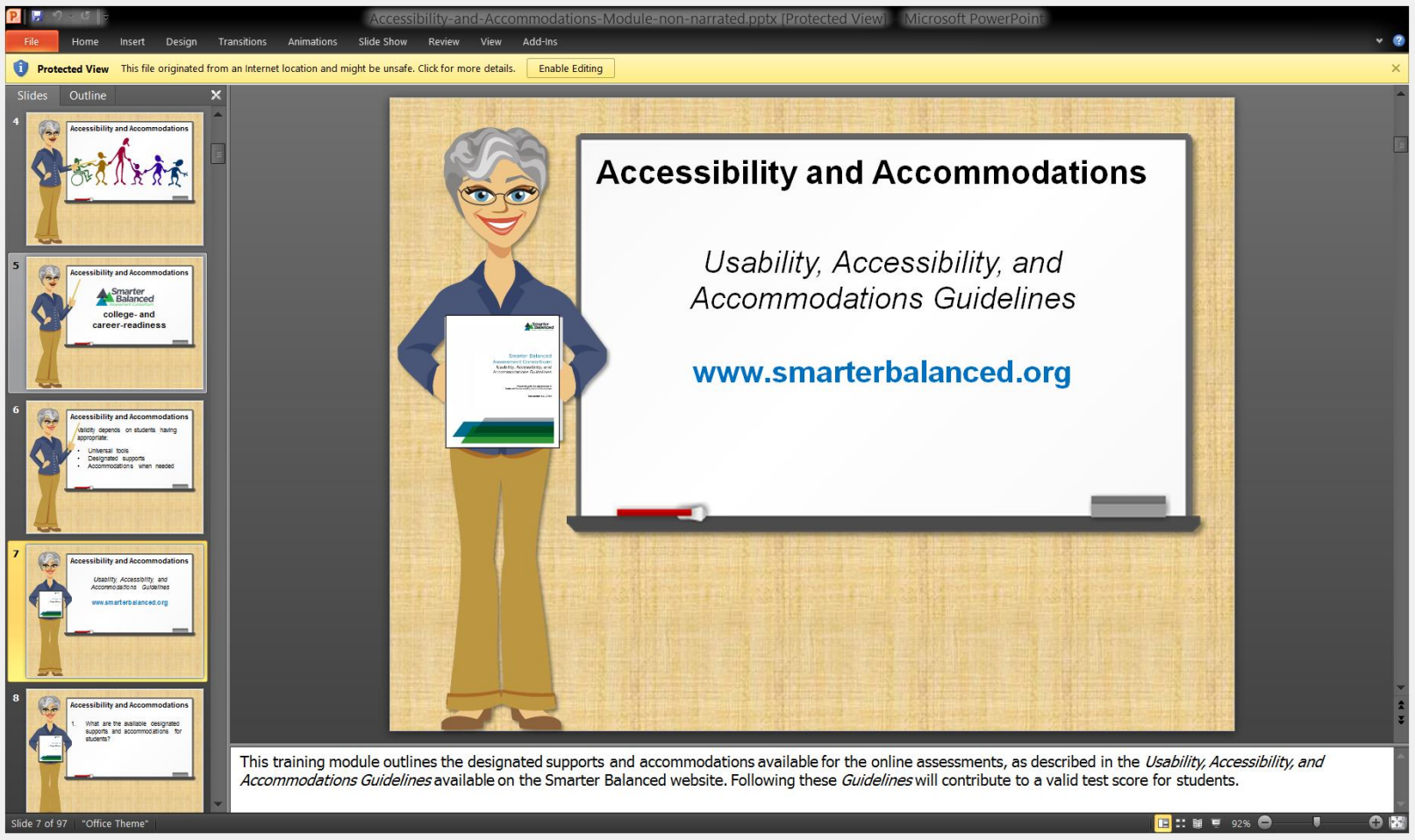
# Training Module

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# Review of Goals

1. What are the available Universal Tools, Designated Supports and Accommodations for students?

2. What do the Universal Tools, Designated Supports and Accommodations look like in the test delivery system?

3. How do I ensure that students receive their assigned Universal Tools, Designated Supports and Accommodations within the test delivery system (embedded) as well as those outside the test delivery system (non-embedded)?

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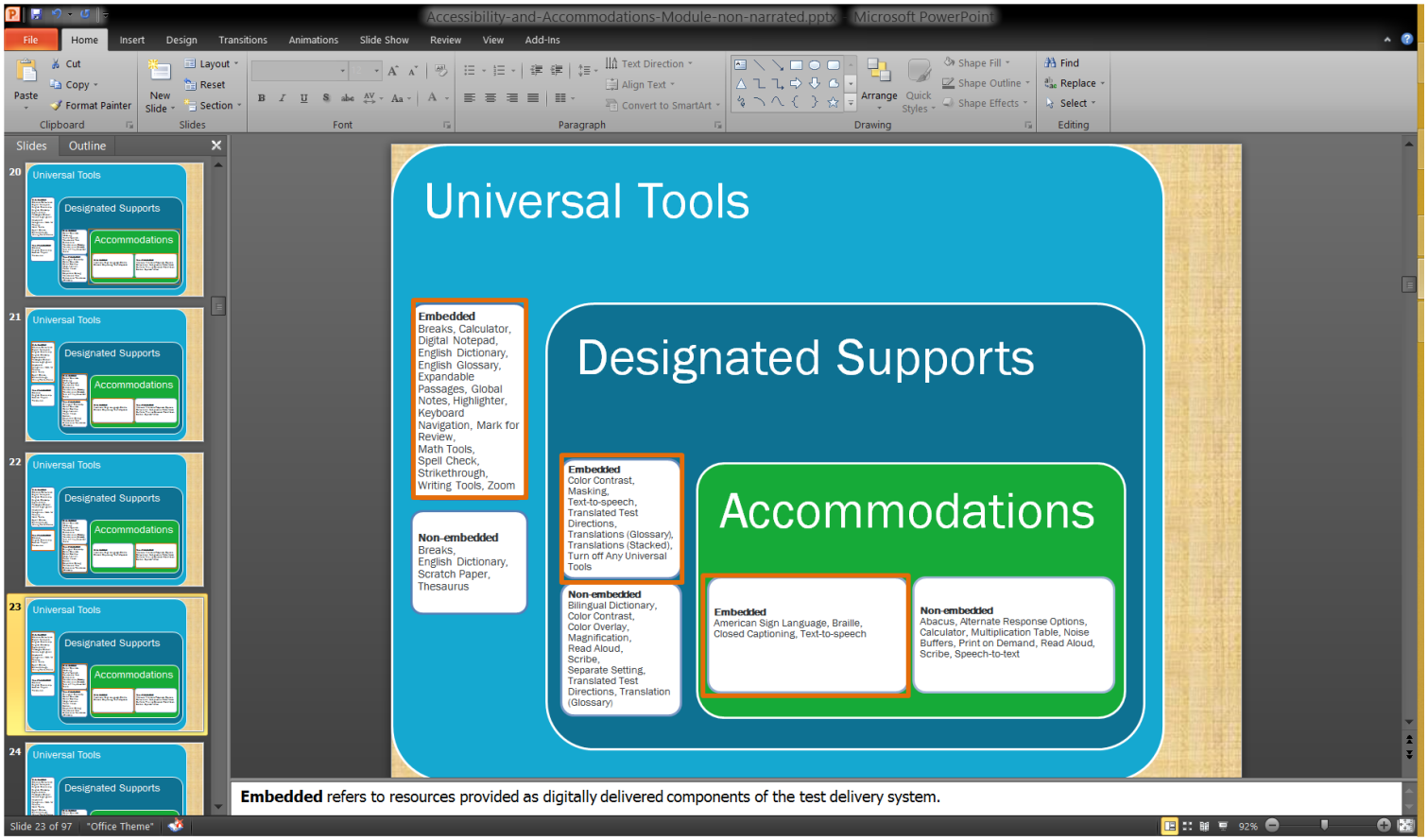


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# Universal Tools

- **Universal Tools** (**available for all students**, including those receiving designated supports and/or accommodations).

**Embedded**
Breaks, Calculator, Digital Notepad, English Dictionary, English Glossary, Expandable Passages, Global Notes, Highlighter, Keyboard Navigation, Mark for Review, Math Tools, Spell Check, Strikethrough, Writing Tools, Zoom

**Non-embedded**
Breaks, English Dictionary, Scratch Paper, Thesaurus

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# Universal Tools

The number of breaks given is flexible. Breaks of more than 20 minutes will prevent the student from returning to items already attempted.

An embedded calculator is available. A talking calculator or a braille calculator may be used for those using assistive technology devices.

A digital notepad is available per item. Notes are not saved when the student moves on to the next segment, or after a 20 minute break.

An English glossary is available for pre-selected terms that are available in a pop up window.

Mark for Review enables a student to flag an item to go back to.

Spell check is available for ELA items. It indicates incorrect spelling only.

Strike through - Highlighter – Zoom are other embedded tools.

# Be Effective

1. Know the purpose of each embedded Universal Tool and online feature;

2. Figure out which ones work best for your students; and

3. Make sure students know how to find and use each embedded universal tool or online feature correctly.

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# Practice Makes Perfect

Students should be given many opportunities to use these embedded universal tools and online features through the available Practice or Training Tests.

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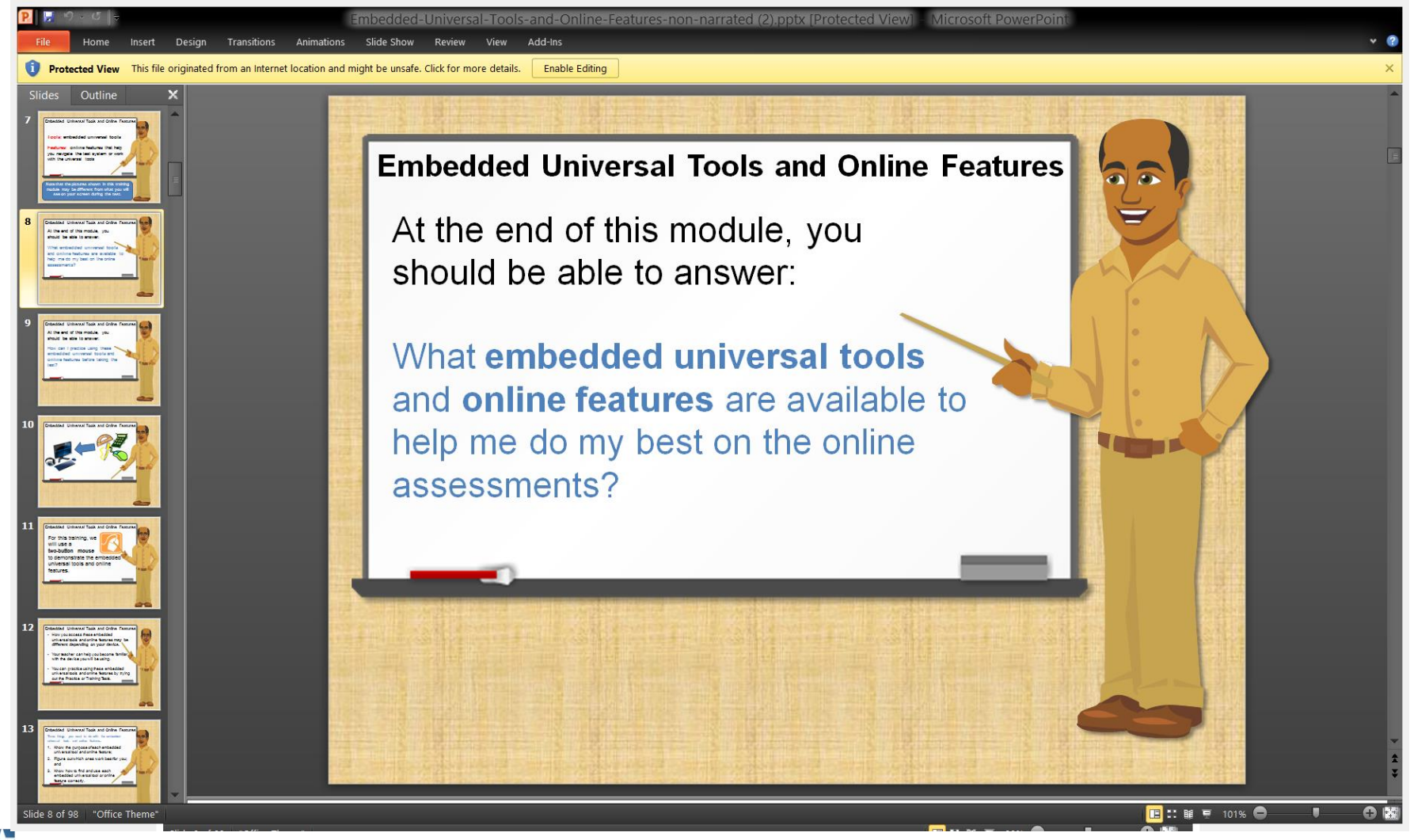
# Universal Tools and Online Features

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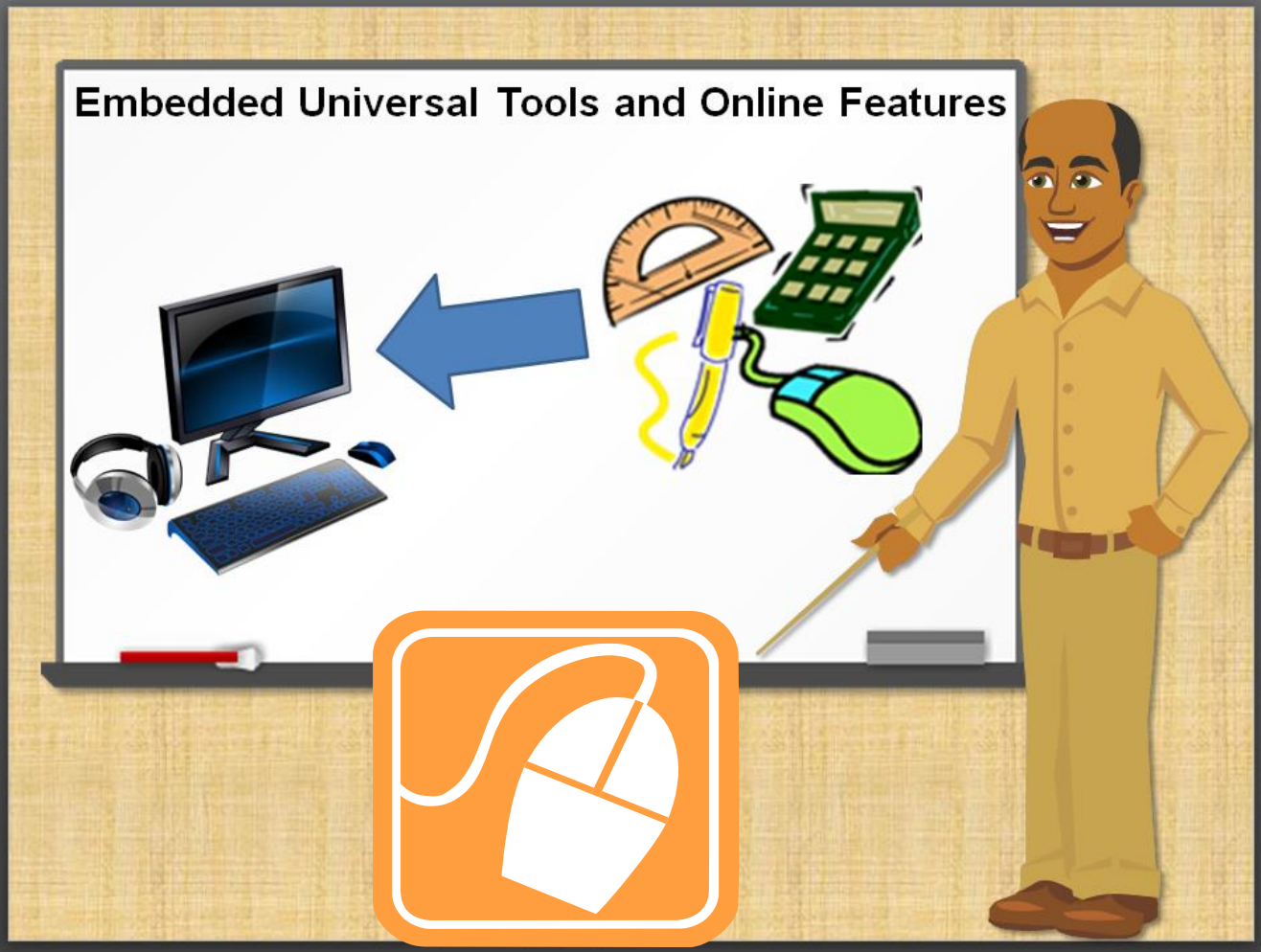


Like many software programs, the test comes with a set of embedded universal tools and online features for you to use.

# Embedded Universal Tools and Online Features are provided to ensure a student is better able to:

- Understand a question
- Read the text
- Answer questions

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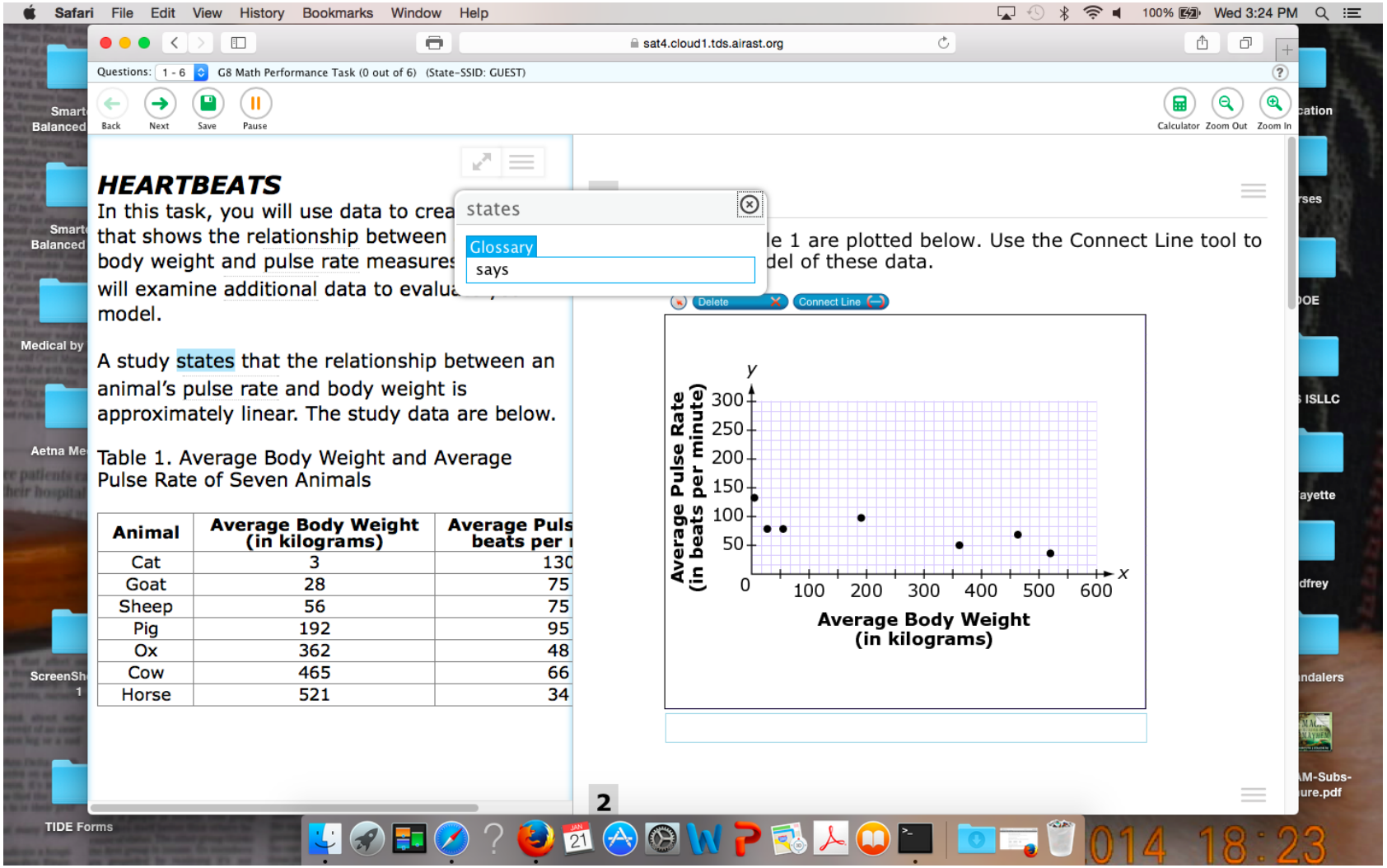
# Embedded Glossary

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# Turning off Universal Tools

- English Dictionary
- English Glossary
- Expandable Passages
- Zoom
- Strikethrough

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# Designated Supports

- Designated Supports are available for students who have a **need** for supports indicated by an educator (or team of educators with a parent/guardian or the student).

**Embedded**
Color Contrast,
Masking,
Text-to-speech,
Translated Test Directions,
Translations (Glossary),
Translations (Stacked), Turn off Any Universal Tools

**Non-embedded**
Bilingual Dictionary,
Color Contrast,
Color Overlay,
Magnification,
Read Aloud,
Scribe,
Separate Setting,
Translated Test Directions,
Translation (Glossary)

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# Designated Supports

- Assigning a designated support **does not** require documentation of need in an IEP or 504 plan. It **does** require a prior education team decision.

- Designated supports need to be identified and assigned in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) **prior** to assessment administration.

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# Designated Supports

- **Embedded Supports include:** Color Contrast, Masking, Text to speech, Translated Test, Directions, Translations (Glossary), Translations (Stacked), and Turn off Any Universal Tools.

- **Non-embedded Supports include:** Bilingual Dictionary, Color Contrast, Color Overlay, Magnification, Read Aloud, Scribe, Separate Setting, and Translation (Glossary).

| Designated Support | Description | Recommendations for Use |
|---|---|---|
| Color Contrast | Enables students to adjust screen background or font color | Recommended for students with at attention difficulties and visual impairments or other print disabilities |
| Masking | Blocking off distracting content or material not of immediate need | Recommended for students with attention difficulties |

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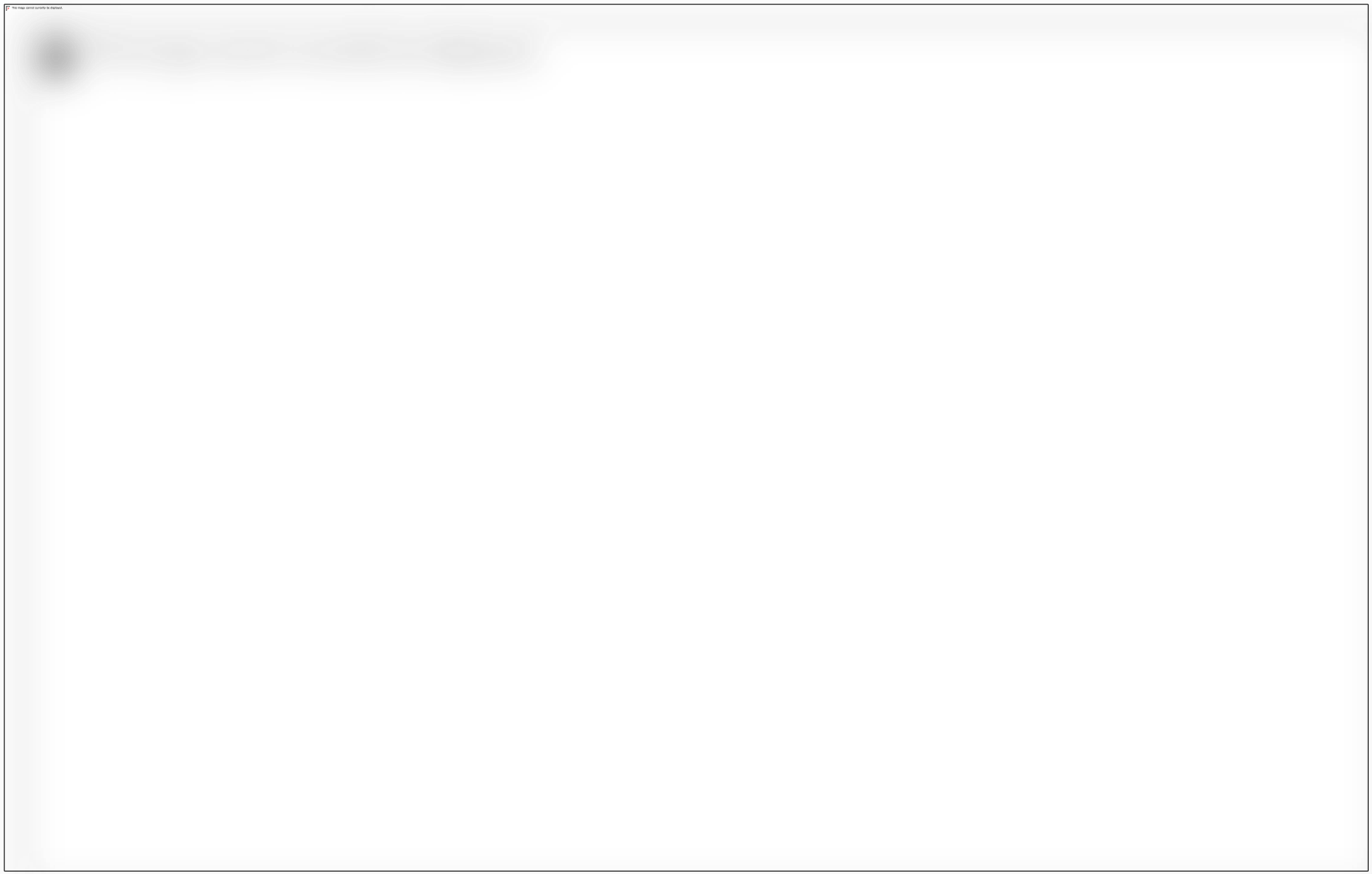
# Color Contrast



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# Accommodations

- Accommodations are available when the **need** for accommodations is documented in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 plan.

**Embedded**

American Sign Language
Braille
Closed Captioning
Text-to-speech
Streamlined Interface

**Non-embedded**

Abacus,
Alternate Response Options
Calculator
Multiplication Table
Noise Buffers
Print on Demand
Read Aloud
Scribe
Speech-to-text

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# Accommodations

**Accommodations** are *changes in procedures or materials* that increase equitable access during the online assessments. Assessment accommodations generate valid assessment results for students who need them; they allow these students to show what they know and can do.

**Accommodations** are **limited to** students for whom there is a documented need for the accommodation(s) on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 accommodation plan or special circumstance, such as a broken arm where a student might need a scribe.

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# Accommodations

- Embedded accommodations include: American Sign Language, Braille, Closed Captioning, and Text to Speech.

- Non-embedded accommodations include: Abacus, Alternate Response Options, Calculator, Multiplication Table, Print on Demand, Read Aloud, Scribe, and Speech-to-text.

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# Text-to-Speech

## For ELA Reading Passages:

- **For students in grades 3–5,** Text-to-Speech is not an allowed accommodation for ELA reading passages as it would compromise the construct being measured. However, students can use this feature as a designated support for math items and stimuli, and ELA PT stimuli.
- **Exception**: Non fluent Braille readers.
- **Students in grades 6–8 and 11** may use Text-to-Speech for ELA reading passages as an accommodation for students when documented in an IEP or 504 plan.

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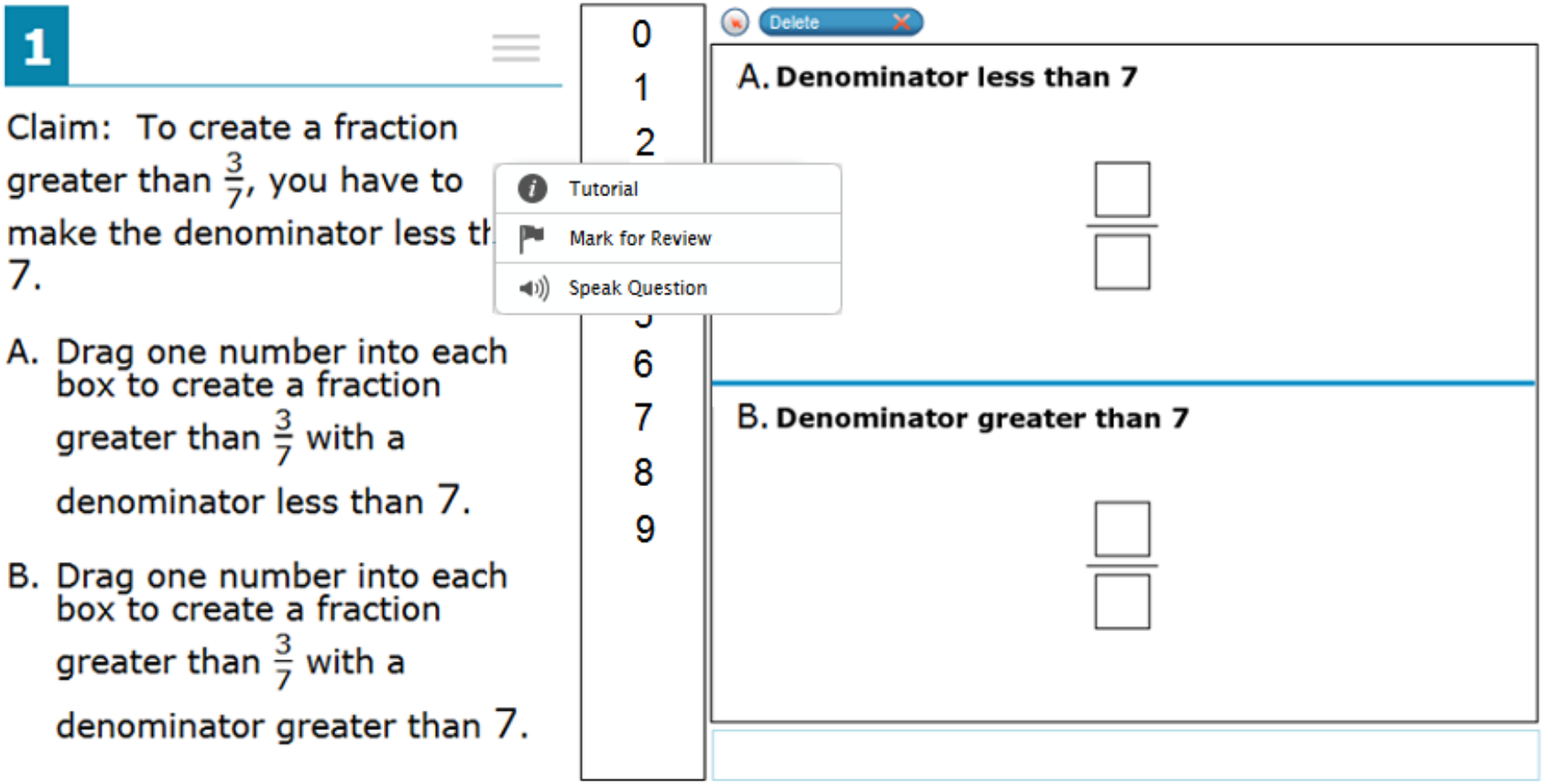
# Text-to-Speech

## For ELA Items, ELA PT Stimuli, Math Items and Stimuli (Not Reading Passages)



# Read Aloud

Read Aloud is available for ELA Reading passages in grades 6–8 and 11. It can also be available to students who are struggling readers that may need assistance accessing the assessment by having all or portions of the assessment read aloud. This support also may be needed by students with reading-related disabilities, or by students who are blind and do not yet have adequate braille skills.

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# Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE)

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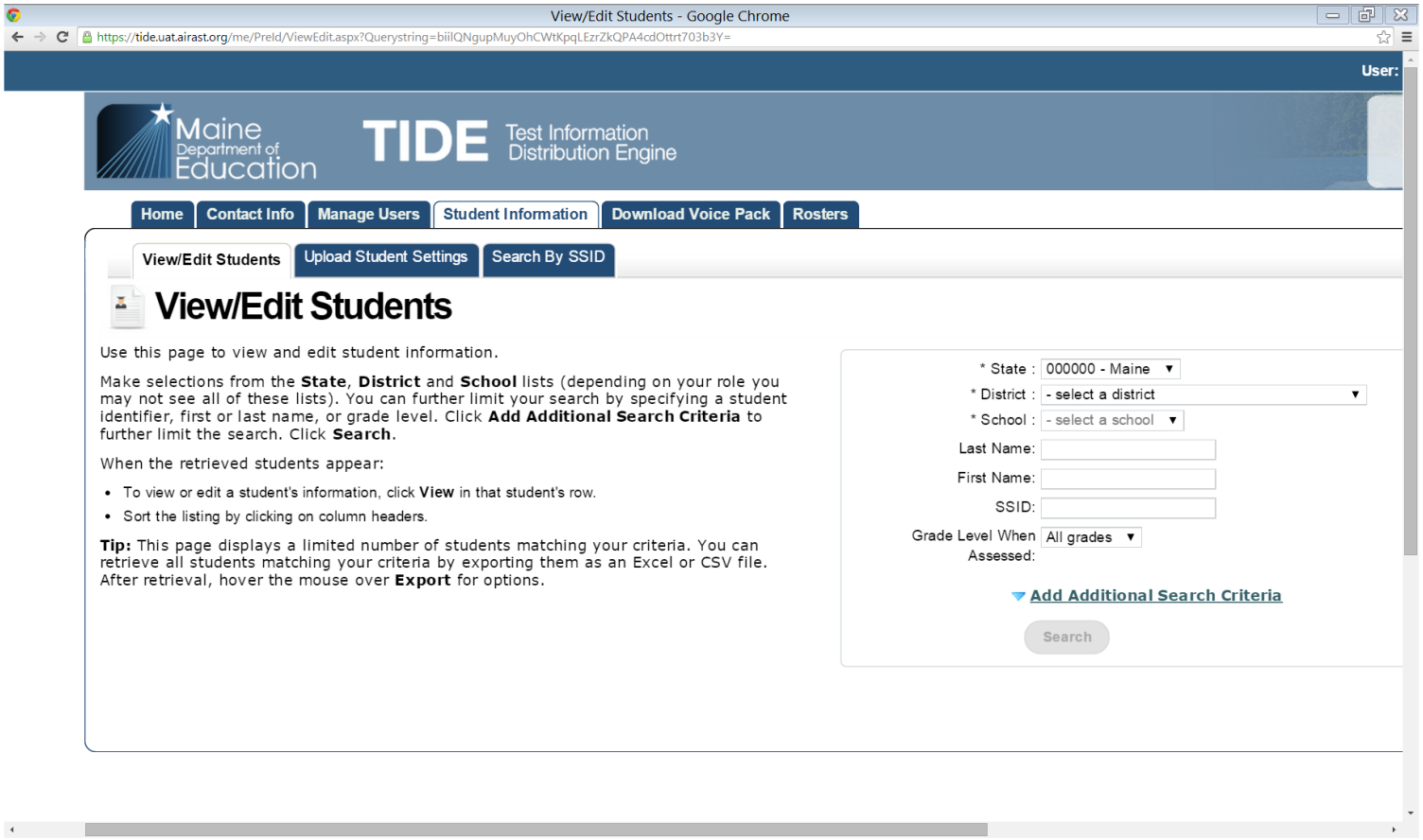


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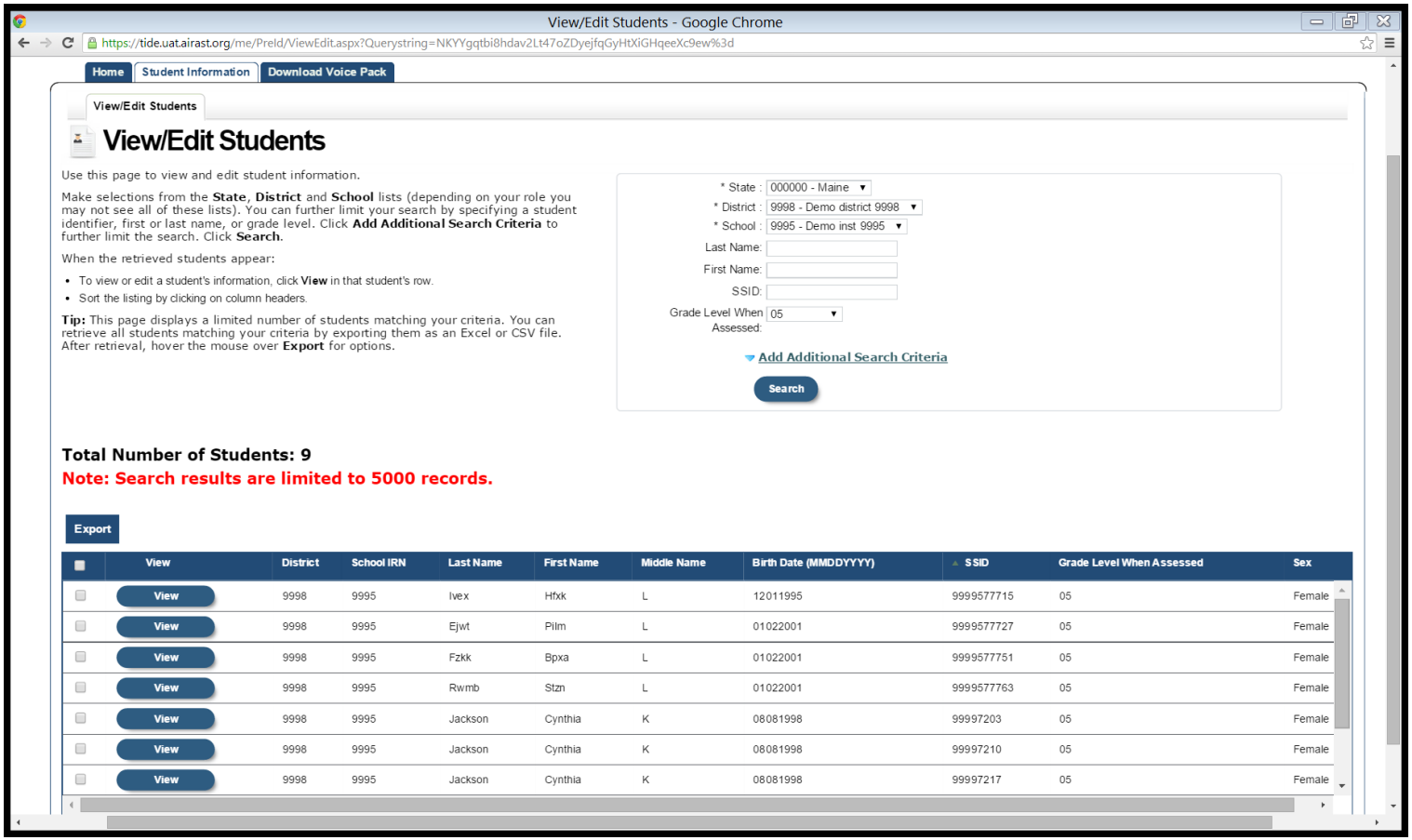
# Select Your Grade Level

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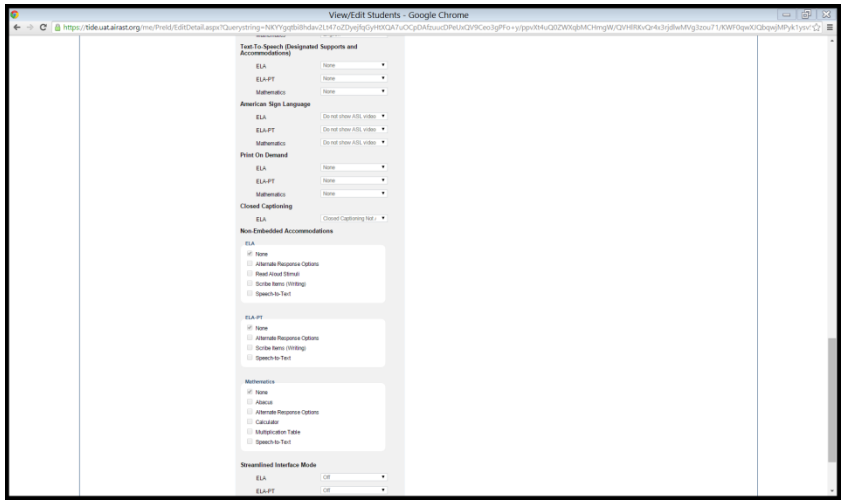
# View Student Details

- Student Demographics
- Test Settings
  - Non-Embedded Designated Supports
  - ELA-PT
  - Mathematics
  - Embedded Universal Tools
  - Designated Supports
  - Accommodations

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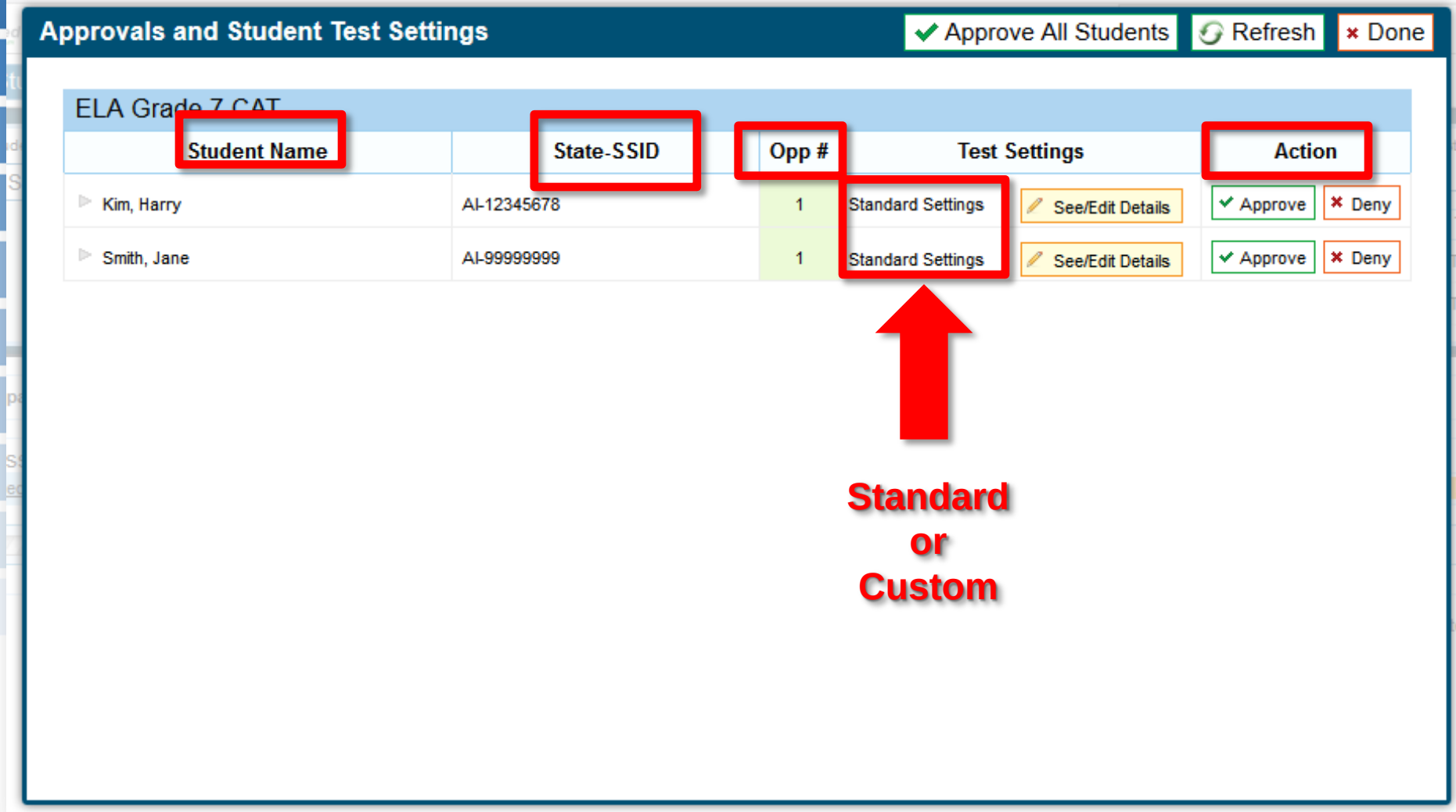
# Accessibility and Accommodations

Confirm that students are assigned the appropriate designated supports and accommodations.

# Approvals and Student Test Settings

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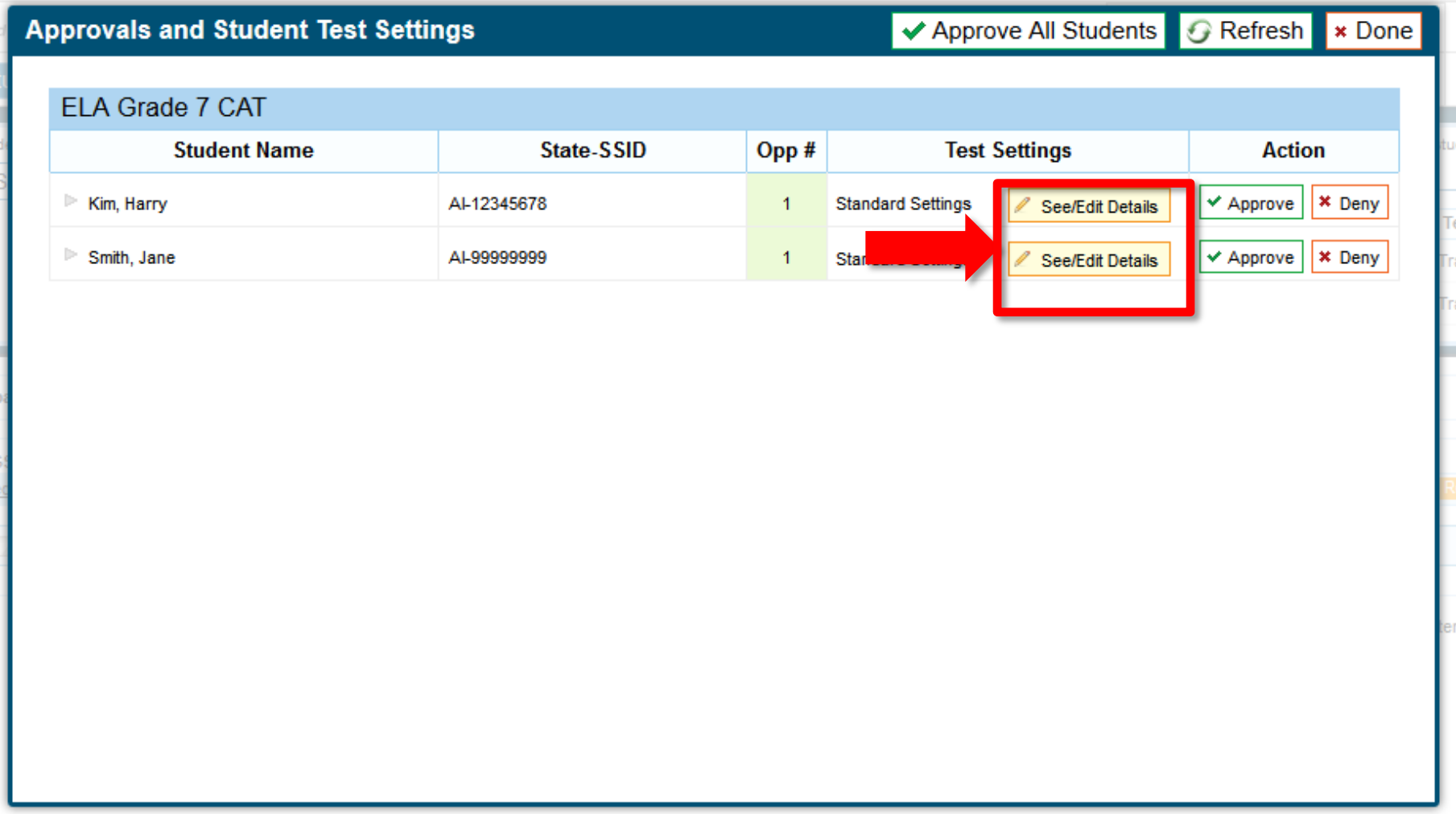
# Approvals and Student Test Settings

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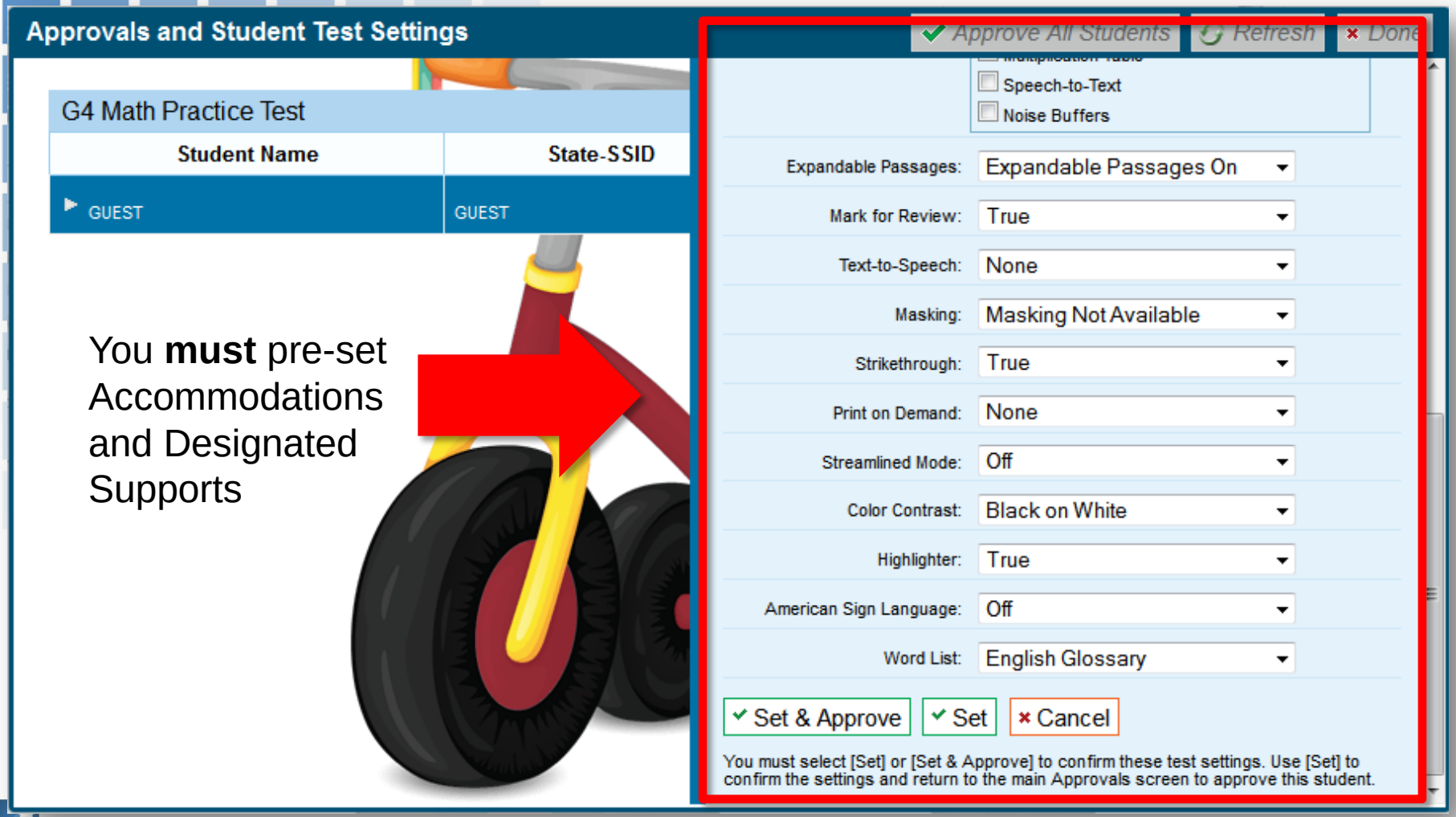
# Approvals and Student Test Settings

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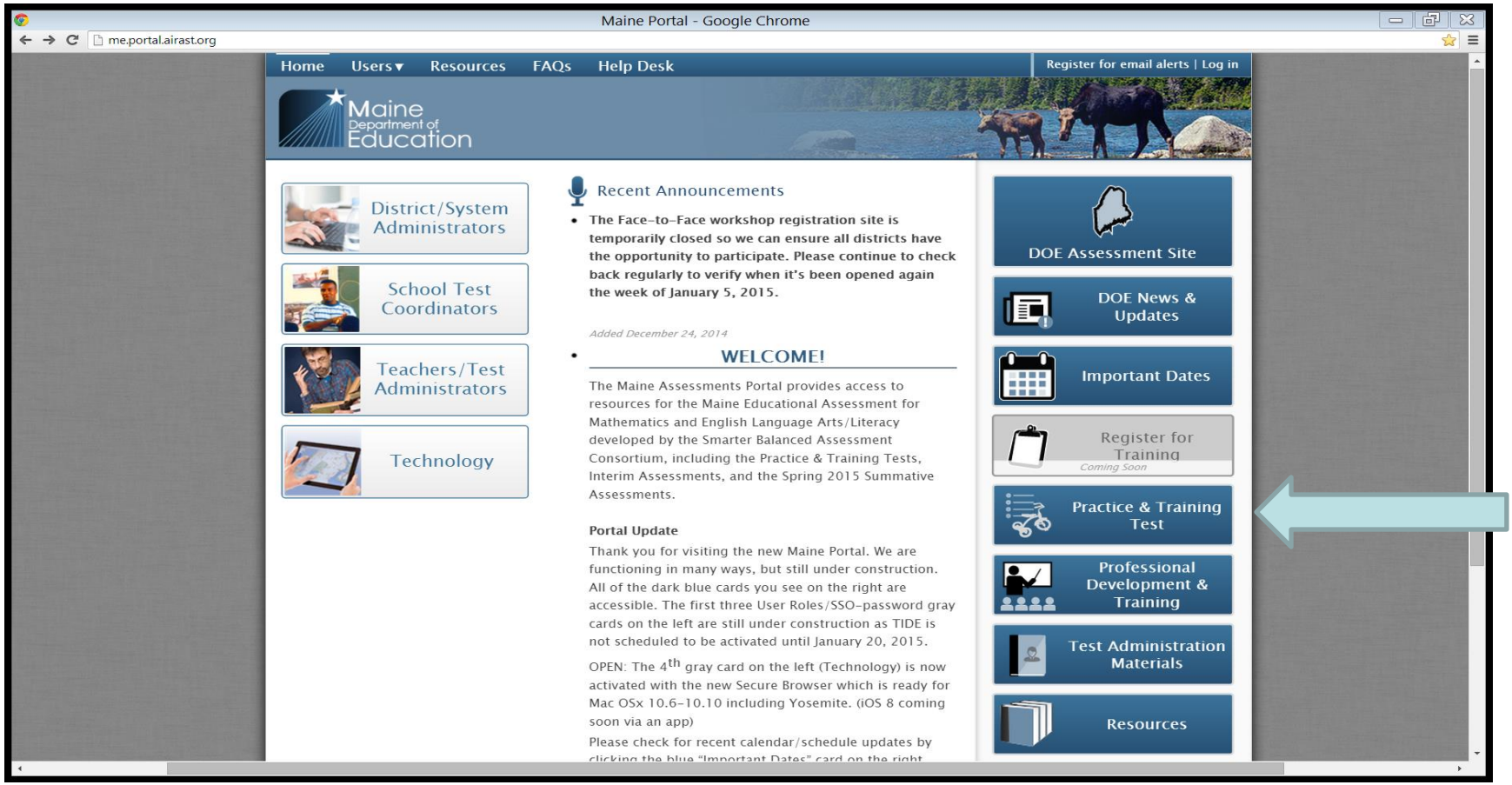
# Practice Tests

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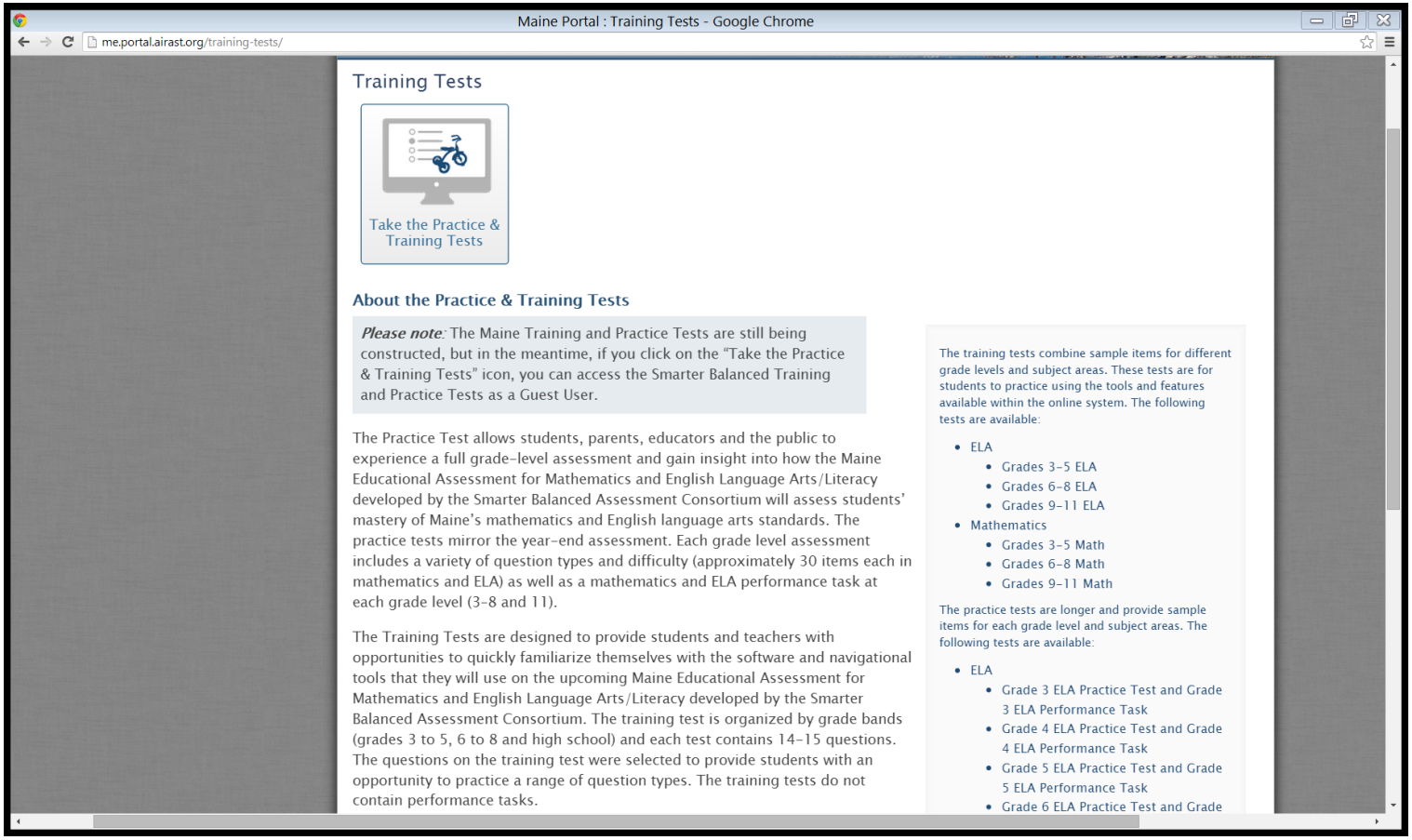
# Practice Tests

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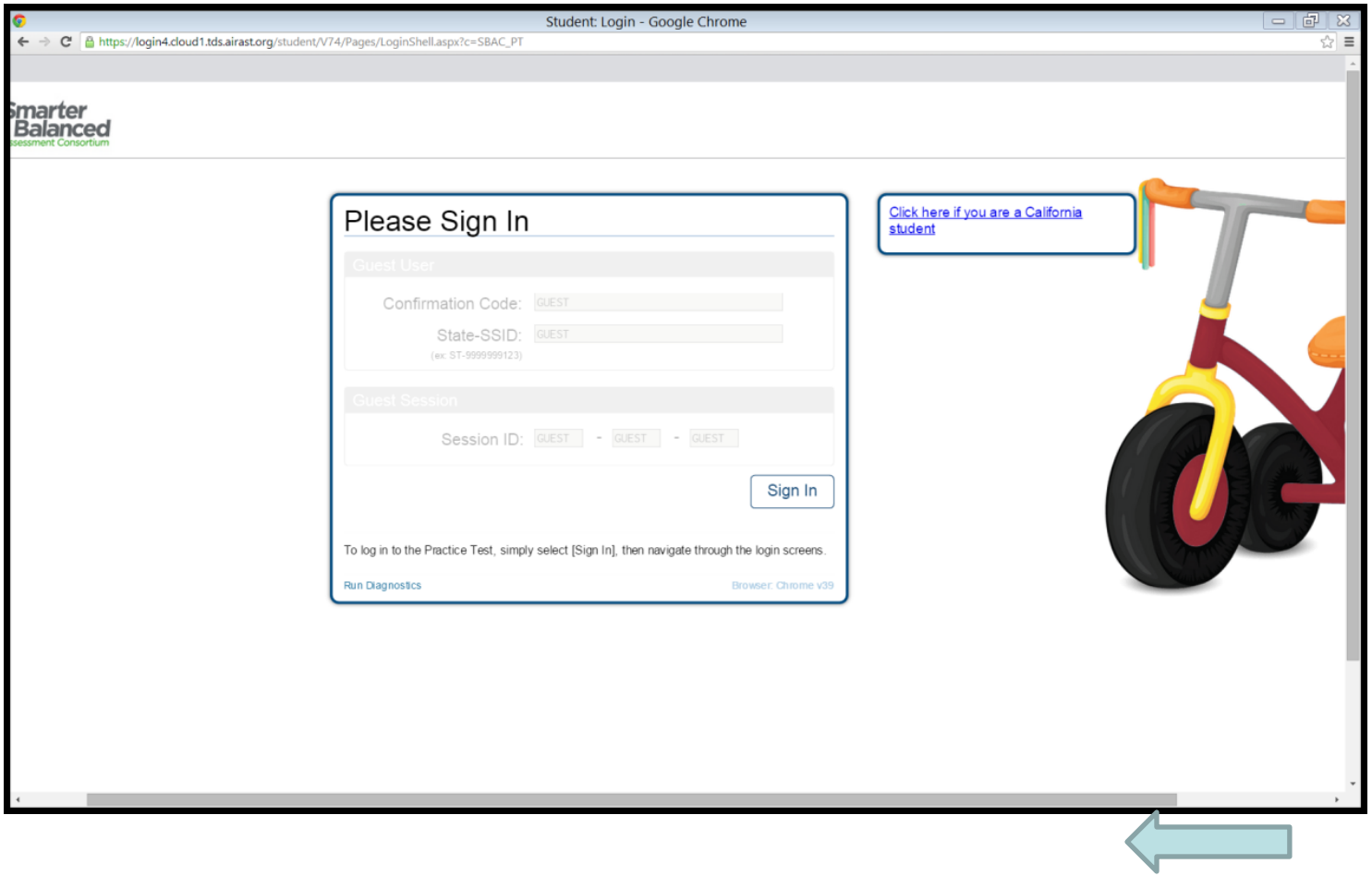
# Sign In

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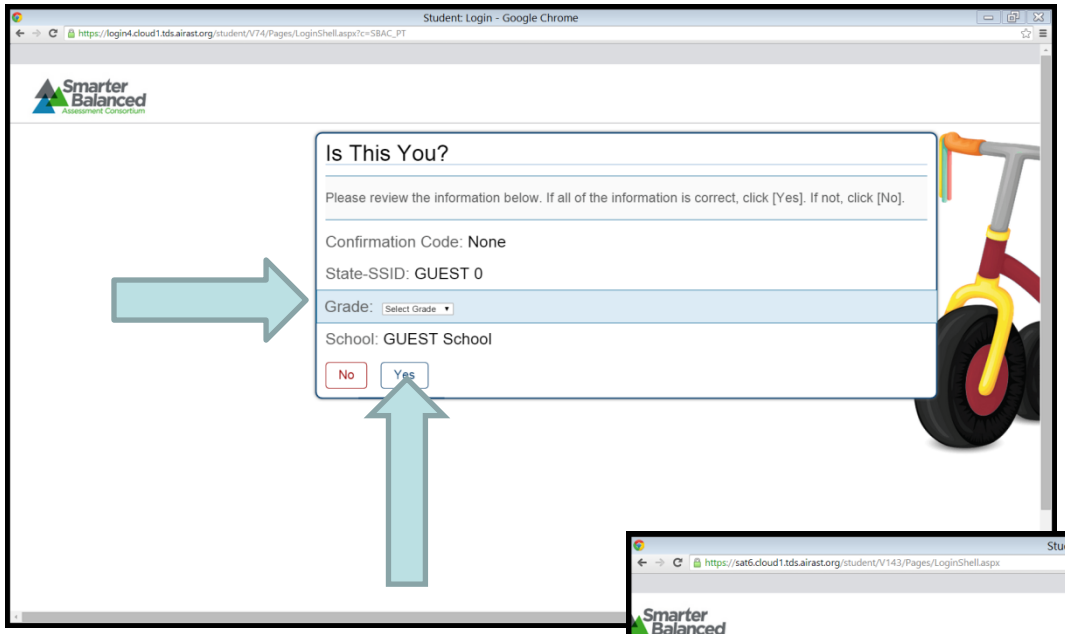
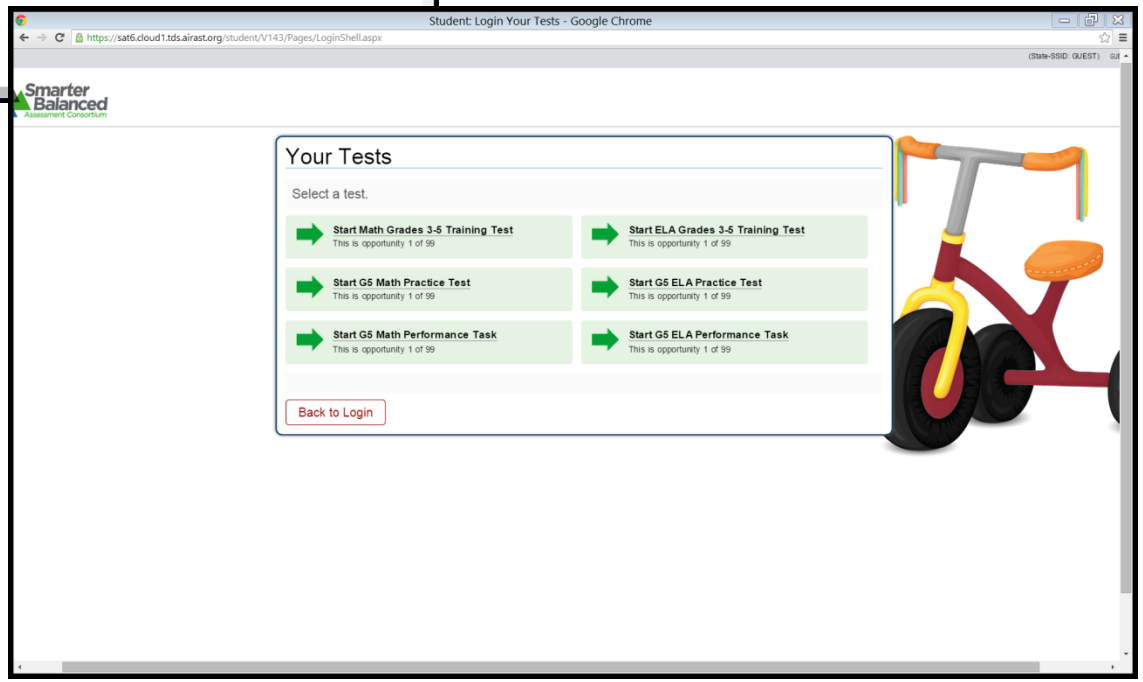
# Select a Grade and Test

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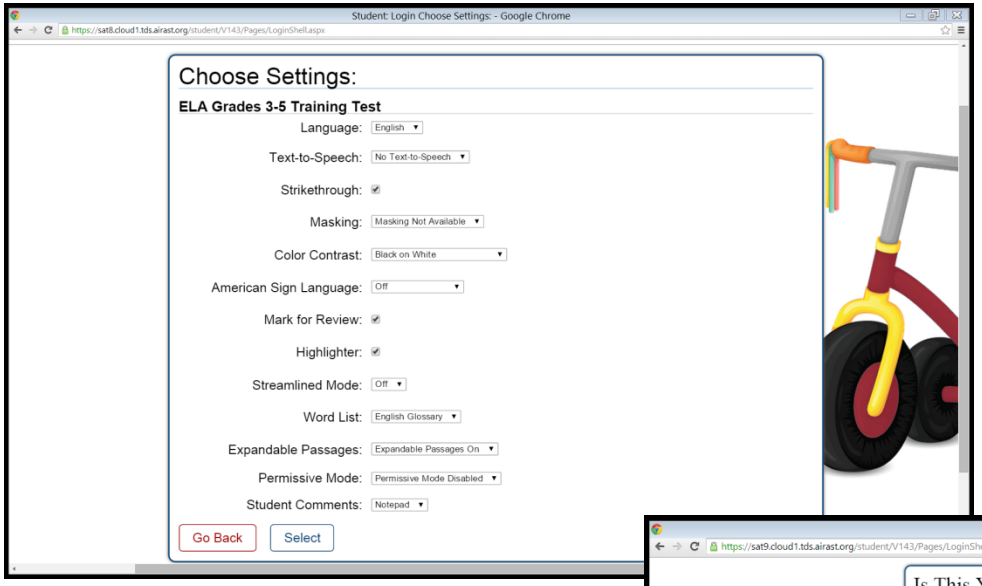
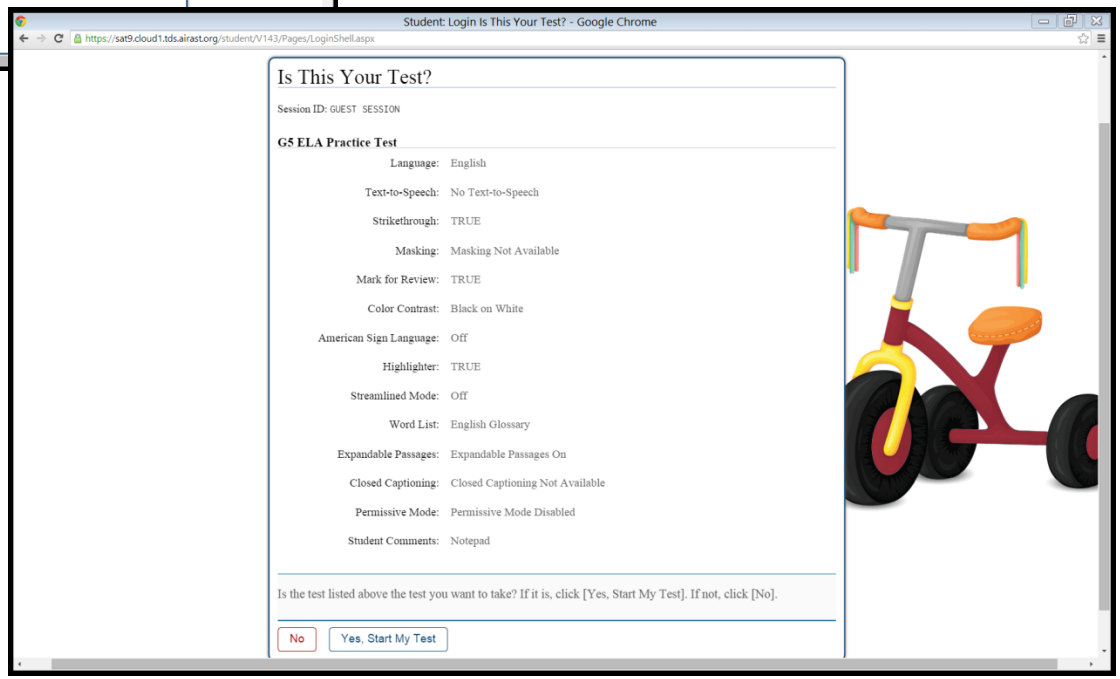
# Change or Select Your Default Settings




Confirm:

Is this Your Test?

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# Practice/Training Test Sequence

- Sign-in as “guest” - click arrow
- Click on the Practice and Training Tests icon
- Select a grade – click YES
- Select a test
- The “choose settings” are at a default – click SELECT
- “Is This Your Test?” page – scroll down and click Yes, Start My Test
- Test Instructions and Help – click BeginTest Now

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# Exemptions

- Eligible students with the most significant cognitive disabilities may participate in the state's alternate assessments.

- ELs enrolled for the first year in a U.S. school (on or after January 1, 2014) are eligible for an exemption from participation in the English Language Arts/Literacy assessment provided they have been administered the WIDA ACCESS, W-APT or MODEL.

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# Test Setting Clarification 1/26/15

It has been stated that Test Administrators (TAs) would not be able to make any edits to student settings for Universal Tools/Designated Supports/Accommodations at the time of a testing session, and that edits needed to be adjusted within TIDE by a School Coordinator (SC) or District System Administrator (DSA).

See next slides for clarification.

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# Test Setting Clarification 1/26/15

After starting a Test Session, a TA **may edit** the following settings

- Highlighter (on/off – default is on)
- Expandable Passages (on/off)
- Strikethrough (on/off)
- Masking (on/off)
- Word List (English Glossary/No Glossary)
- Mark for Review (on/off)
- Student Comments (on/off)
- Print Size: (no default zoom applied)

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# Test Setting Clarification 1/26/15

After starting a Test Session, a TA **may view, but not edit** the following settings

- Print on Demand (default at None)
- Text-To-Speech (default at None)
- American Sign Language (default at Off)
- Color Contrast (default at black-on-white)
- Language (English vs. Braille – default at English)
- Non-Embedded Designated Supports (default at None)
- Non-Embedded Accommodations (default at None)

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# Contact

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